

July 1988

MEMO TO DESIGNERS 5-7

Retaining Wall Safety Railing

Cable railing should be installed for employee protection in areas where employees may work adjacent to vertical faces of retaining walls (earth retaining structures) wingwalls, abutments, etc. and where the vertical fall is 7 1/2 feet or more. Structures with a front face battered steeper than or equal to 1:4 should be considered as allowing a vertical fall.


See Standard Plans for details of cable railing.

Special designs for safety railing may be considered where aesthetic values of the area warrant special treatment.

An exception to the requirement for installation of cable railing may be made where the horizontal distance measured from the traffic face of a traffic barrier or traffic railing to the front face of an adjacent wall does not exceed four feet. If a cable railing is determined not to be needed for employee protection, then the District should be contacted to determine if a chain link fence is required for protection of the public.



Philip C Warriner



Guy D. Mancarti

JCM/pg

Replaces previous Memo
dated January 19, 1970